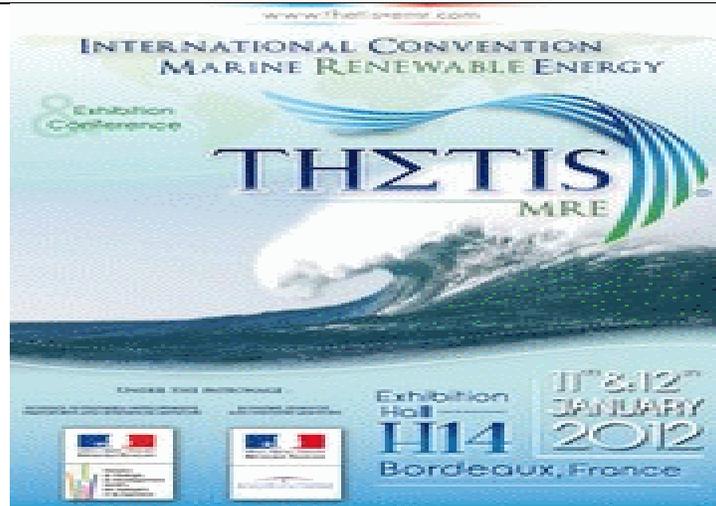


To: Gerard Pereira, Energinat SA



With hope and enthusiasm for a new future industry.s

by Alain Juppe

Initiatives in the field of marine renewable energy are today developing well and are justifying the hopes placed in them, especially since the advent of IPANEMA and "Grenelle de la Mer". It is now essential to support and promote this new industry and to reinforce the existing synergy between the various actors who are behind its construction. For these reasons I am delighted that Bordeaux has been chosen to organize the first edition of the THETIS EMR Convention to which I give my full confidence and support.

Bordeaux was indeed predestined to host this fully professional convention involving both French and international industry! The city offers a wide and favourable range of possibilities to develop the sector and represents a dynamic example by encouraging the emergence of marine renewable energy:

Bordeaux has an exceptional location on the Garonne River. In a recent project, the strong tidal currents of the river have been used to create energy using a vertical axis turbine positioned at the base of one of the main nautical installations of the city.

The proposed test site for tidal energy SEENEHO boasts excellent natural conditions to develop the industry and to create new jobs;

The port infrastructure offers excellent access to facilities for the European offshore wind market in the context of the future 3000 MW wind turbine scheme planned by the French government;

The Port of Bordeaux, which is situated centrally between Great Britain, France, Spain, Portugal and North Africa, is eager to develop its marine terminal;

I am convinced of the potential of sourcing wave energy in the Aquitaine region with its 250 km of ocean coastline.

Our strong privileged relations with our twin city Bilbao, has allowed us to invite EVE, Ente Vasco de la Energia, for a meaningful exchange on its BIMEP test site.

Bordeaux and the region of Aquitaine are working with energy and enthusiasm to launch the first edition of Thetis EMR to further unite this industry of the future and show the lead in this new market.

I am confident this first edition will be successful and look forward to welcoming you to Bordeaux on 11 and 12 January.



Alain Juppé

Mayor of Bordeaux

Minister of Foreign and European Affairs